THE ORIGINAL

Moonbeams

BY COLONEL LITTLE

The Smallest Newspaper in the West

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A Promising New Year (1957) is ripe in the Valley of the Moon

It's still the holiday season, so we're keeping that holly border on the front page for this week yet. Next week, back to school.

A wife laughs at her husband's jokes not because they are clever but because she is. VALLEY WATCH REPAIR, Boyes Springs.

Below freezing almost every morning of late, and you could almost say we had a white Christmas—frost all over Valley roofs. But it can't last forever. Still no rain. Ranchers and flower growers wish we'd get some, or we might not be so well off this coming summer.

THE FOOD MART, Fetters Springs, extends a hearty wish to all for a Happy and Most Prosperous New Year.

Back in Michigan we always held open house on New Year's day. It was a nice custom and we'd like to do it out here, too, but conditions have changed somewhat, the friendship circle also, but—if you'd like to drop in for a while next Tuesday, we'd be mighty happy to welcome you.

MIKE & ROSE'S BOYES SPRINGS STORE extends to every Valley resident a sincere wish for a Prosperous New Year.

Could almost repeat the Christmas story and apply it to New Year's. Postoffice and most business places will close, but there's a difference. Everything will be wide open New Year's eve, with the night spots, hotels, taverns having open house, some with real "parties." And most of the eating spots will be serving New Year's day dinners. There'll be more people "eating out" New Year's than there were on Christmas.

With the horrible slaughter on the highways that appalled the nation over the Christmas holidays, 'twould be a good idea to stay off the highways if at all possible. Leave the car home. Walk down town.

SONOMA FURNITURE MART. New location—113 West Napa St. Larger and more varied stocks, with exceptionally low prices.

Early to bed and early to rise,
And you'll make enough cash to do otherwise.

TOWN HOUSE SUPPER CLUB, Glen Ellen extends Greetings. Why not let us help with your New Year's festivities?

Christmas was most satisfactory at the Little household. There were record numbers of cards, lots of presents, and with a turkey dinner with friends Christmas eve, we wound up the big day with some roast duck, mince pie (we'd swear the missus sneaked some brandy in with the mincemeat), and later at the house next door we were introduced to Swedish glug. Or maybe it's glogg. It's a spiced hot drink, with various ingredients including raisins and almonds, and we'd hate to think what would happen if you drank say four of them.

HOOKER OAKS TRAILER PARK, Hiway 12. Hope you have a wonderful New Year. Drop in and get acquainted. Shell products.

Got a poinsettia (pronounce that second "i") for the house. It cost something too. Down around San Fernando valley they grow 'em in big fields, acres and acres, and they also grow wild farther south from Sunset and Sepulveda.

OUR RESORT, El Verano. Home of the Stein Club. Draft beer. May 1957 be the best year you ever had. Drop in on us New Year's.

The not so welcome news is that you'll get a statement on your new 1957 auto registration most any minute now. You can pay up any time from January 2 to February 4 (what a heck of a time of year to be collecting this tax!). All you'll get will be a little red luminous tag to be attached to your rear license plate.

JIM'S MEATS, at Boyes Springs Food Center. We sincerely wish you all the finest New Year's and all of 1957 in your life.

Been able to stay home several recent Tuesday nights now, and find it's the best night of all for quiz programs—if you like quiz programs. One half hour after another, you can go along with the contestants who win fabulous sums if they're intelligent enough or lucky enough.

SONOMA GROVE, Hiway 12 south of Boyes. A Happy New Year to you all. You'll like our New Year's dinner!

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There's some building going on in the Springs already—Williams Roofing is installing a complete plant, and a new dental office for Dr. Whiteside is going up on Peluffo ground next to the Plaza building on our main street (Valley boulevard, we call it). Our secret information sources tell us there's more business building in prospect for the very near future.

YELL'S ACRES NURSERY, Glen Ellen. Good time of year to select our prize winning Dahlia tubers, and other of our specialties.

Had a young visitor Christmas, a little boy about 15 months old. Introduced him to he old pastime of crossing the legs and letting the youngster sit on a shoe, then singing loudly while bouncing him up and down: "Hi, diddle de diddle and diddely dee"—and on and on. He hardly would let us stop, then he went to his parents and asked for more of the same. Will they bless us—or cuss us?

DENNY'S COG CLUB, Boyes. The whole staff extends hearty New Year's wishes. Join us during the festivities.

Heard a dilly: A young local husband broke down and got his young wife a Christmas present, first in years. It was wallpaper, rolls of it (she had wanted to paper the walls for many a month). So she proceeded to apply the wallpaper to the living room and found he'd bought only enough for three walls. He had to go back and get some more, so eventually everybody was happy. Or so she said.

PAUL'S RESORT, Verano. You'll like your New Year's dinner here. Surprise your guests. Listen to Paul at the organ.

Kennard Nelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Nelson of the delicatessen, was up from Los Angeles for Christmas. He doesn't make it very often, but always has a good time here and comes back for more whenever he can. He's a good looking bachelor.

NEW YEAR'S DAY DINNER at the EL DORADO HOTEL, Sonoma, will satisfy the most discriminating. A wonderful menu, all for you.

So come the Rose parade and Rose Bowl games. We were down there for almost four years; had two passes one year (sold 'em for $12), but never saw either spectacular except on television. Reason (if any): To travel the 30 miles to Pasadena, you take busses or street cars (unless you like o get caught in one traffic snarl after another), and you must get up about 3 a.m. to make it in time to get a good spot along the line of march.

It gets just as cold there as here during the early morning hours, so you freeze to death. You daren't leave your seat to get to a restaurant for hot cakes and coffee, so you eat some ice cold sandwiches you brought along, drink coffee from a thermos bottle (many pep it up with other ingredients), sit on a hard seat for too many hours—

and you've had your parade, seeing something less than you would have had you stayed a home in nice warm surroundings.

GLEN ELLEN LIQUOR STORE. On Arnold Drive. Fine wines and Liquors. A friendly place, always. "SLIM" WALLACE.

VALLEY OF THE MOON CIGARS—Union label, handmade right here at home. Most dealers have 'em. Superior quality always.

That Rose Bowl game! We're picking Iowa (almost made that Michigan State) but no points, mind you. Big Ten football remains tougher than that of the Pacific coast, but it may not always be so.

BANCROFT NURSERY, Sonoma. A Happy New Year to you all. For cut flowers, potted plants, corsages, plants and seeds, try us.

FRIBERG DRUG STORE, So. Broadway, Sonoma. Prescription specialists. A super drug store, large stocks. Soda fountain, too.

You listen to that "Monitor" radio program currently on most of the time Saturdays and Sundays? They've got the goofiest sound that comes on whenever one little segment of the program ends. Something like a dying guinea hen. Try to get it, and tell us how it's done.

BOYES SPRINGS FOOD CENTER. For the long New Year holidays, stock up at this fine market. For Fine Foods, always.

TODD CONSTRUCTION - ESTIMATING SERVICE. Surveying. Subdivisions. 18340 Sonoma Hwy., Boyes. Greengrass Bldg.

There was a little Volkswagen in front of the Food Center the other day. Door was unlocked, and because we were curious (as always) we proceeded to try out the driver's seat. Could hardly make it, though possibly the seat had been moved ahead too far for one of our weight and size. Needed a shoe horn. Once in, it was kinda cute. But maybe we should forget it all.

SONOMA MISSION INN wishes you an extremely Happy New Year. Why not visit us for your New Year's Eve celebration?

SEE GREENGRASS for expert advice on all matters pertaining to Real Estate, Insurance. Phone 8-4731. 18340 Sonoma Hiway.

They've finally approved the new route of Highway 12, giving a shorter route via freeway from Kenwood to Sebastopol. You'll probably be able to drive over it in five years or so. But who wants to get to Sebastopol quicker anyway?

BIG NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY at BROADWAY CAFE, Sonoma. Time of your life certain. Special values on party drinkables.

MAC DONALD'S JEWELRY, Sonoma. Expert watch service. Jewelry for everybody. Watches. Shavers. Watch Bands. Rings.

Remember our using "wassail" bowl in last week's headline? Many persons asked us what the heck we were talking about. So looked it up in a dictionary and it didn't tell too much. It was an ancient Eng-

lish drink, someone told us, using heated beer, apple juice and other things, ladled out to all comers at Christmas time. Doesn't sound so good, does it? Dictionary says that today it refers more to the custom of celebrating the holiday with good cheer and conviviality—which is all right with us.

ROZARIO'S PALMS INN, Verano. Special New Year's menu. We extend a hearty wish for a Happy New Year to everybody.

RAY'S AUTO WRECKING—1216 East MacArthur. Sonoma. WE 8-5173. We tow, buy, sell, trade. Old cars, trucks. Open 8 to 5.

Stein club has a big annual dinner for its 52 members Saturday evening at Our Resort, El Verano, its headquarters. We're invited, so maybe you'll have the story next week.

THE CHICKEN HOUSE, Hiway 12, Boyes. For the finest chicken and home-made pies and coffee you ever had. Happy New Year!

TOWNSEND'S, next to Bank of America, Sonoma. Shoes for the family. Koret sport shirts and jackets. Levis, Jeans, Work Clothes.

By any chance did you hear Nelson Eddy and Jeanette McDonald together again on a TV program recently? Remember when they were just about the tops in singing duos, with many a hit play such as "Naughty Marietta," "Rose Marie" and "Student Prince?" They did look a bit older (not too much), but their glorious voices seemed to have kept that superior tone and quality as of yore.

POWDER BOX BEAUTY SHOP, Arnold Drive near Eldridge. A modern shop, experienced operators. For appointment call 8-2673.

MENDEL'S CAFE, Boyes Plaza. Splendid menu. Recently added: Spanish foods. Cocktail bar for the most discriminating.

A woman who can keep a secret sometimes has the bad luck to tell it to a woman who can't.

Lot's Doing at RUSTIC INN, Glen Ellen, over the holidays. Join us. GUNNER and RUTH extend hearty greetings.

MANCUSO WINES, grower-produced. Glen Ellen. Available at every retail outlet. As good as the best, and better than most.

Name pronunciation has always intrigued us. Why do they call it Pell Mell when it's spelled Pall Mall? And so many California names are pronounced so differently from their spelling—like San Josie (wrong), Valle-joe (wrong) and dozens of others. Reminds us of a story we've always thought was just about the funniest.

A Swedish man and his family (must have been from Minnesota) were out this way on vacation, and he asked the service station attendant how far it was to Valle-Joe. The man was told the name was pronounced Valleho, and that all California names were pronounced as if the J were an H.

"How long are you folks going to be in our fair valley?" was ask-

ed. The visitor thought carefully for a moment or two, then answered: "Oh, till about Hune or Huly."

SONOMA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, Arnold Drive. You'll like our Clown Room. Your guests will appreciate your bring 'em here.

AQUA SOFT—Water Treating Co. Sonoma owned. Call Petaluma Porter 2-7458. Evenings, Sonoma, Webster 8-3433.

A touring Texan stopped at a Florida roadside market and upon seeing a watermelon, asked, "What's the price of this cantaloupe?"

The clerk looked at him and then at his license plate, and witheringly replied: "Take your finger off that olive."

RAY'S SIGNAL SERVICE, Arnold Drive at Cecilia, Eldridge. For Emergency Groceries at any time; good sized stock. WE 8-5811.

B & L LAUNDROMAT, Fetters. Bring your laundry here regularly for fast service and small charge. Wash. Dry. Iron.

COLORADO PIDDLE (from California Farmer)

Here is something that does not make sense to us. The Colorado river has been sick for the last four years. In fact, reduced to a piddle. And yet the crazy mixed-up congress voted in the Upper Colorado project which throws a whole bunch of dams across the upper reaches of this sluggish river.

During the last four years the Colorado has put out only about 8 million acre feet of water annually while normal is 12½ million acre feet.

Hoover dam is so low that it can deliver only 63 per cent of the contract power.

Here we have Hoover dam practically drying up and these monkeys are building more dams upstream.

No wonder southern California is so nervous when it comes to talking of state water plans.

BATES AND EVANS, Funeral Directors. Sonoma Valley's Pioneer Funeral Service firm. Serving families of all faiths since 1879. 691 Broadway Sonoma. WEbster 8-2686.

BUD'S GARAGE. Now located Railroad & Cherry Sts. Repairing all cars. Guaranteed service. Phone WE 8-3971.

WE DON'T KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT THE HEAVENS, EITHER

From the Sebewaing (Mich.) Blade we grab a little dissertation on the state of the heavens along about holiday time.

"During December, our attention and interest are constantly drawn to the sky and the stars in some vain attempt to interpret astronomically the early Christmas star," Hazel M. Losh, associate professor of astronomy at University of Michigan, points out.

"Although we are continually reminded by the limited descrip-

tion and uncertainties of early calendars that any exact astronomical explanation or time of the Star of Bethlehem's appearance are out of the question," she continues, "yet the bright planets are always promising and alluring."

Mercury, Venus, Saturn, Mars or Jupiter—all bright planets during December—each could easily have been the Christmas star, she relates.

The Northern Cross is moving steadily toward the west, and may be seen splendidly during Christmas week. After dark, it will stand upright against the western sky, a beautiful symbol of the Christmas season.

Sirius, the brightest of all stars, has been prominent during December. "From time immemorial," Professor Losh explains, "Sirius has been watched, admired and revered, rising as it does in the early evening around Christmas time. It was the 'Star of the East,' pointed to by the 'Three Wise Men of Orion.' "

Sirius is the brightest of all stars, and is 27 times more luminous than the sun. It is so far from the earth that light we see from it now actually required more than eight years to reach us.

WALTER GRUNERT AUTO UPHOLSTERY, Fetters Springs. Texaco station. Seat covers, floor mats, truck cushions, interior work.

LEE STARRETT, Masseur, at Bathhouse, Boyes. Massages, slenderizing. You'll look and feel better. Make it a habit.

Have gone to several holiday parties, and really should say something about them. But on the other hand, 'most everybody has done much the same thing, and we just can't report 'em all. Did you behave?

R. A. "BOB" MILLER — "Yours for Life"
Insurance Exclusively Next to Telephone Co., Sonoma

FRANK'S HARDWARE, Castner Bldg., Boyes. Paints, Tools, Glass. Household utensils, electrical appliances. Giftware.

IF YOU'VE HAD TOO MUCH, ADD SOME COFFEE!

In a copyrighted article by Delos Smith of the United Press, he advises that you top off holiday cheer with coffee if you're going to drive New Year's eve.

Dr. Leon Greenberg of Yale university's center of alcohol studies said experiments have shown that two cups of coffee make a safer driver out of a man or a woman who is "high" on two or three drinks.

He isn't talking about drunks, of course; neither coffee nor anything else can help them. But it isn't the truly drunken who run up highway accident totals. It's the "high" drivers.

Here's what he has found:

"Visual fusion" is the brain function which takes the separate images picked up by the two eyes and fuses them into one. That helps the brain to judge distances instantly and accurately. In the drunk, this fusion often doesn't take place at all—and the drunk sees double.

In the average sober person, fusion takes place in about 5-100ths of a second. His measurements show that three drinks will lengthen the fusion time to 1½ seconds. In that time a car going at 50 mph advances 100 feet.

"In our experiments we have found that after two cups of coffee, this fusion time for the three-drink person is cut down again to near normal," Greenberg said.

His experiments also indicate that coffee helps side vision which has been narrowed by the effects of alcohol and speeds reaction-time.

Greenberg disclosed his first test results as a service to people who will drive their cars after drinking whether they should or they shouldn't.

No one should get any idea that coffee can justify the drunk in trying to drive—or sober people letting a drunk drive. Greenberg's definition of what is drunkenness is scientific but easy to apply—any person who shows "gross disturbance of behavior" is drunk.

FIELDS' AUTO REPAIRS, next to Texaco, Fetters Springs. Repairing all makes. Work guaranteed. Charges always low.

ADOBE DRUG (Ray S. Duer), 417 First St. W., Sonoma. WE 8-2971
Prescription Specialists Veterinary Supplies

Elvis the Pelvis is still the No. 1 attraction in the popular record field, so we're told, but there's a 23-year-old Arkansas lad who is going to give him competition, a number of observers believe.

He is Johnny Cash whose disc, "I Walk the Line," is a substantial hit already.

Like Elvis, Johnny Cash sings and strums a guitar, but unlike the wiggler, there are no bumps and grinds in his routine. He is a fair-to-middling country guitar player himself and composed the words and music to the first four tunes he recorded.

Cash, at 23, is the father of two baby daughters and lives in Memphis, which is the Times Square for country and western singers these days, it seems.

SONOMA MILL & LUMBER CO., Hiway 12 at the big curve. Super service for contractors, carpenters, home owners, ranchers.

RICHFIELD SERVICE, Boyes Springs. Center of town. Fast and efficient service. Accessories. Bud Delaney, Proprietor.